

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 2, after line 13, please insert the following new paragraphs:

DE 4130989 A1 discloses a rack and pinion steering device in which the rack and the piston rod of a parallel/cylinder-device are coupled for simultaneous movement. The connection between the rack and the piston rod is highly stressed due to the forces to be transmitted through this connection.

U.S. Patent No. 3,390,436 discloses a servo device for a steering system for vehicles and ships, in which the rack and the cylinder are not fixed to one another. The cylinder is moveable with respect to the rack and is actuated by the rack through valves in the heads of the cylinder. This construction inherently necessitates a free play of the order of the valve movement which is detrimental for road vehicles.

U.S. Patent No. 4,629,026 discloses a servo steering device in which a pinion operates on a rack. The rack is floatingly mounted (column 2, lines 40-43) and elastically coupled to a cylinder of a hydraulic servo motor. The elastic coupling gives rise to an indirect response to the steering to the driver's input. This elasticity therefore is undesired and should be eliminated.